



**CITY OF GREENSBORO  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***CITY LIFTS VOLUNTARY WATER RESTRICTIONS***

***Recent Rains and Improvements in Water Infrastructure Protect Greensboro's Water Supply***

**GREENSBORO, NC (December 9, 2005)** – The City of Greensboro announced today that it has lifted the voluntary water restrictions in place since October 4. Residents were asked to restrict water use as precipitation in early fall was 11 inches below normal for the year. Recent rains have raised water levels in Greensboro's three reservoirs. Although still not up to average yearly rainfall totals, the City reports there is no immediate concern for Greensboro's water supply and restrictions are no longer necessary. Water Resources officials remind residents that water conservation is still important and that conserving water can help lower water and wastewater bills, while helping to protect Greensboro's water supply for future generations.

In the past few years, Greensboro has made substantial improvements to its water system to protect against drought. Interconnections to three cities (Reidsville, Burlington, and Winston-Salem) allow the purchase of over 10 million gallons of water per day to slow the decline of reservoir supplies during extended droughts. Greensboro's Water Resources Department used these tools to protect reserves during the fall of 2005. With the supplemental water supplies, Greensboro's reservoirs dropped to only 65 percent of capacity before recent rains began. Without the supplements, the reservoirs' capacity would have dropped to less than 56 percent. As a result there was no need to call for mandatory restrictions which can become necessary to protect the water supply.

City Manager Mitch Johnson emphasizes the importance of these proactive measures. "The efforts Greensboro undertook in the past few years to ensure an adequate water supply are now affording our residents and businesses with the water they need," he said. "Greensboro has become a model across the state in strategically planning for future water supply."

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The City of Greensboro works in partnership with the community to increase the quality of life for all residents by fostering an environment of inclusion, diversity, and trust. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a dedicated professional staff of 2,800 employees who maintain four core values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City is governed by a council-manager form of government with a mayor and eight council members. For more information on the City of Greensboro, please visit us online at [www.greensboro-nc.gov](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov).

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